

## What the Experts Say About Non-Lead Bullets

“It [the Barnes XCL bullet] is an excellent choice for game up to and including moose-sized critters as it offers accuracy and reliable terminal performance – everything we require in a hunting bullet.”

Ian McMurchy, Contributing Editor  
Barnes XCL Bullets  
*American Hunter*, January 2003

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“Barnes has put out a lot of innovative new bullets in recent years. These bullets have been used and proven in the field by hunters. Other shooters have also indicated the Triple-Shock X-Bullets are very accurate and are working out well in the field. Like any brand of product, some shooters swear by Barnes X-Bullets! If you already like the Barnes C-Bullets, you will really like the Triple-Shock X-Bullet!”

Richard Folsland  
Barnes Triple-Shock X-Bullets  
*Gun World*, April 2004

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“I’ve shot several different animals with the Barnes X-Bullet, with uniformly excellent results. One big Montana muley took a single leap before collapsing in a lifeless heap. I’m knocking on wood, but I’ve yet to wound a single head of game hit with an X-Bullet. All have been quick, clean kills.

I saw my first Triple-Shock X-Bullet in January, well after the close of pronghorn, elk and mule deer seasons. I’m looking forward to testing the new bullet on game, but that will have to wait until sometime later this year. I know that more than 250 head of various kinds of game have already been killed with Triple-Shock X-Bullet prototypes used by members of the Barnes advisory staff.

Considering the outstanding success the original X-Bullet has enjoyed, I’m betting the new Triple-Shock X-Bullet will be in high demand when next hunting season rolls around. The promise of lower pressures, higher velocities, less fouling, improved accuracy and the X-Bullet’s time-proven effectiveness on game will be hard to resist.”

Clair Rees  
New Triple-Shock X-Bullet  
*Rifle/Shooter*, May 2003

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”Expansion at normal velocity produces a beautifully symmetrical front end with four petals. The Barnes TSX expands with a relatively long bullet shank no matter what the impact velocity. The near-100-percent weight retention (at normal impact velocity) maintains kinetic energy. This, combined with the bullet's controlled front-end formation, results in deep penetration.”

Rick Jamison

Testing the New Barnes Triple Shock X-Bullet

*Shooting Times*, June 2004

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“Barnes Bullets first got noticed by serious African hunters with the development of their homogenous solids in the early eighties. When they expanded (pun is intended) that concept to the solid copper, expanding X-Bullet in the mid eighties, the rest of the hunting world took notice. The X-Bullet soon became a favorite for serious big game hunters because it would penetrate deep and track straight on big game, while creating a large wound channel. It has often been said that the introduction of the X-bullet changed the rules about bullets and it put Barnes on the map.”

Bryce Towsley

Barnes Bullets Stick of Dynamite

*Women's Outlook*, February 2005

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“Just as I had settled on the load I was going to use on this Argentina hunt, the SHOT Show came up and there I saw a new bullet by Barnes that changed my mind. I'm talking about their Triple Shock, which is really nothing more than an X-Bullet with three pressure-relieving bands cut into its bearing surface. The advantages of these bands are twofold: the combined width of the bands amount to approximately 30 percent of the total length of the bearing surface, which means a commensurate decrease of surface contact with the bore. The result is less pressure (all other things equal), and less copper fouling. With Barnes also claiming better accuracy for these new bullets as well, I wanted to be first to try `em in the field.

Unfortunately, production of the 7mm/140 Triple Shock bullet wasn't scheduled for another couple of months, so the examples they sent me were individually machined one-at-a-time and as such, they could spare only 60 of them. It was good luck though that the first powder I tried showed enough promise that by the time I expended 40 of them in load development, I arrived at the one I brought with me to Argentina - one that produced 3-shot groups that averaged 7/8”.

Jon R. Sundra

THE TRIPLE-SHOCKED STAG

*Shooting Illustrated*, November 2003

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“Getting acceptance for the bullet was tough. It was just too radical a design and frankly there were some early problems. But the technological evolutionary process eliminated or vastly reduced those problems over the years and the X-Bullet grew to be accepted as one of the finest big game bullets on the market. Now with the next generation of X-Bullet, the Triple Shock, most of the critics have been silenced.

As a solid copper bullet the X-bullet has always been a "hard" bullet. It would sometimes foul bores and it was sensitive to bore diameter tolerances. While most rifles liked the X-bullets just fine, some simply would not shoot them well and others would foul badly. The most noticeable change with the Triple Shock X-Bullet has been the addition of three or four grooves in the shank of the bullet. These act to reduce friction and fouling and provide a relief area for the displaced copper to move to when the bullet engraves the rifling. The Triple Shock also features a few refinements to the nose area to aid in easier expansion. This boattail bullet effectively eliminates many of the criticisms of the original X-Bullet. They are accurate, fouling is minimal and they help to reduce pressure. They are not as sensitive to bore diameter tolerance and will shoot accurately across much wider spectrum of barrel quality. Because of the reduced contact area and lower friction, they can be driven faster than the standard X-Bullets with a given chamber pressure level. The field reports that I have heard about performance on game have all been outstanding. But, then I would expect that, it's an X-Bullet after all.

While Barnes manufactures bullets primarily for handloaders, Barnes X-Bullets and new Triple Shock X-Bullets are also available in factory-loaded ammunition from Federal and PMC.”

Bryce M. Towsley

The Bullet Company That Changed Our Thinking

*Shooting Illustrated*, October 2004

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“In 1988 the Barnes all-copper bullets, named "X-Bullets", were offered to hunters. Reports on them from the game fields soon came in. Experienced hunters like Ross Seyfried, who used .30 caliber X-Bullets on feral donkeys in Australia, were surprised at their penetration and killing power. Perhaps the most impressive testimony came from Australian professional hunter and game manager Bob Penfield (in an unsolicited letter to Randy Brooks). Penfield mentioned a culling operation of several years duration that involved 130,000 rounds fired at 40,000 feral donkeys, 10,000 wild horses and many other animals. The cullers used a large number of rifles of all common calibers and bullets. They reported that the Barnes X-Bullets were more effective than any of the others, and that the slightly lighter bullets in a given caliber killed quicker than slightly heavier ones-e.g., the 165-grain .30 caliber bullets versus the 180-grain ones, or the 210 or 225-grain ones in .338 size versus the 250-grain ones.”

Fred Barker

Barnes X-Bullets: Revolutionary

*Precision Shooting*, September 2004